

RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILDREN

CUS-3

Approved 7/01/2010

Liberty Lake Municipal Library holds parents/caregivers responsible for the conduct, safety and security of their children under the age of nine (9) while visiting the library. Neither the library nor programming offered by the library for children is intended to take the place of care and supervision by a parent or other caregiver. If a child is acting inappropriately or in a manner that disturbs other library patrons, the child's parent/caregiver will be asked by library staff to take care of the situation. If the problematic behavior is not modified, or if the accompanying adult does nothing to remedy the situation, a warning will be issued. If the adult ignores the warning, the adult will be asked to leave with the child, and a note will be put in both the adult's and the child's records. After three such notes, the individuals will be temporarily suspended from the library for a period not to exceed one (1) month. Should the individuals return following a suspension and repeat previous offenses, those persons will be permanently excluded from the library. Children between the ages 9-17 will be held personally responsible for their behavior.

If individuals suspended or excluded feel the suspension is unwarranted, it is their right to take this disagreement to the Library Director. If the individuals are still not satisfied, they may address their concerns with the Liberty Lake Library Board of Trustees.

For the safety of the children of the community, Liberty Lake Municipal Library will take appropriate action if a child visiting the library appears to be unaccompanied and, therefore at risk.

An unattended child is defined as a minor eight (8) years old or younger who appears to be unaccompanied by an adult or caregiver of at least fifteen (15) years of age after a period of ten minutes in the library.

Unattended children will be greeted within 10 minutes of entry into the library by a staff member who will inquire as to the location of his/her parents or caregivers.

If no parent or caregiver is in the immediate vicinity, the staff will notify local law enforcement personnel, who will take charge of the minor child and pursue appropriate measures.

Liberty Lake Municipal Responsibility for Children Policy will be posted in the library and included in its "*Introduction to Liberty Lake Municipal Library*" brochure.